

a share in opening up that
region - In 1856 being then Under
Secretary for the Colonies I sent out
the Palliser Expedition the first
which traversed the country between
the two branches of the Saskatchewan
& discovered the passes leading
across to the West on the British
side of the 49th parallel. —

My chief regret is that I could
not arrange to start earlier so as
to see more of the Vegetation of
the Pacific Slope - but I shall
be thankful to have at least
some personal acquaintance with
that region

Very sincerely yours

John Ball

with kindest greetings to Mrs Gray

10 Southwell Gardens London SW
22 May 1884

My dear Dr Gray

I have again to thank you
for your interesting letter - I write
today only a few lines - in the first
place to account for a liberty I
have taken with you - I am told
that I must give an address in
America for letters & documents
that may be sent to me from
Montreal and not - knowing any
other secure address at this moment
I have said care of - yourself
at Cambridge - I suppose that
even if you should be absent some
one in your house will take
care of them & after my arrival

we shall make proper arrangements -

We are disposed to follow your advice & go by sea from N York to Boston - probably going at once from the Gallics on board the Newport & Fall River boat. We shall go at once to one of the Boston Hotels & my first move on shore shall be to go to see you at Cambridge -

I know so well my wife's constitution that nothing will induce me to let her attempt the long journey westward. Even our short European railway trips try her severely & my great object is to find some place where she can have quiet & agreeable security - I suppose that she will hit the coast first - perhaps the hotel you mention

near Beverly - and after that perhaps some pretty place in the hills near the Canadian border - we have heard of ^{two} places Newport - & Mountain House on Lake Memphremagog - that seem tempting & quieter than the large hotels in the White Mountains - My elder son is going with us but can remain only about a month in America he will remain with Mrs Ball making probably an excursion to Niagara

I have a Cambridge friend who joins in my western trip so that we shall be on arriving a party of at least four - possibly six as a cousin of my wife's with her husband is thinking of joining her -

I am rather anxious to join the excursion on the Canadian Pacific line immediately after the Montreal meeting the more so as I had